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# Ckan API client Documentation

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Contents:



# CHAPTER 1

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## Clients

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There are currently three clients for the Ckan API, each one providing a different level of abstraction, and thus can be user for different needs:

- *CkanLowlevelClient* – just a wrapper around the API.
- High-level client: provides more abstraction around the CRUD methods.
- Syncing client: provides facilities for “syncing” a collection of objects into Ckan.

### Low-level

This is the client providing the lowest level of abstraction.

```
class ckan_api_client.low_level.CkanLowlevelClient(base_url, api_key=None)
    Ckan low-level client.
```

- Handles authentication and response validation
- Handles request body serialization and response body deserialization
- Raises HTTPError exceptions on failed HTTP requests
- Performs some checks on return values from the API

#### anonymous

Property, returning a copy of this client, without an api\_key set

#### request (method, path, \*\*kwargs)

Wrapper around `requests.request()`.

Extra functionality provided:

- Add Authorization header to requests
- If data is an object, serialize it with json and add the Content-type: application/json header.

- If the response didn't contain an "ok" code, raises a `HTTPError` exception.

### Parameters

- **method** – HTTP method to be used
- **path** – Path, relative to the Ckan root. For example: `/api/3/action/package_list`
- **headers** – HTTP headers to be added to the request
- **data** – Data to be sent in the request body
- **kwargs** – Extra keyword arguments will be passed directly to the `requests.request()` call.

**Raises** `ckan_api_client.exceptions.HTTPError` – in case the HTTP request returned a non-ok status code

**Returns** a `requests` response object

### `list_datasets()`

Return a list of all dataset ids

### `iter_datasets()`

Generator yielding dataset objects, iterating over the whole database.

### `get_dataset(dataset_id)`

Get a dataset, using API v2

**Parameters** `dataset_id` – ID of the requested dataset

**Returns** a dict containing the data as returned from the API

**Return type** dict

### `post_dataset(dataset)`

POST a dataset, using API v2 (usually for creation)

**Parameters** `dataset (dict)` – a dict containing data to be sent to Ckan. Should not already contain an id

**Returns** a dict containing the data as returned from the API

**Return type** dict

### `put_dataset(dataset)`

PUT a dataset, using API v2 (usually for update)

**Parameters** `dataset (dict)` – a dict containing data to be sent to Ckan. Must contain an id, that will be used to build the URL

**Returns** a dict containing the updated dataset as returned from the API

**Return type** dict

### `delete_dataset(dataset_id, ignore_404=True)`

DELETE a dataset, using API v2

### Parameters

- **dataset\_id** – if of the dataset to be deleted
- **ignore\_404 (bool)** – if True (the default), will simply ignore http 404 errors from the API

---

```

list_groups()
iter_groups()
get_group(group_id)
post_group(group)
put_group(group)
delete_group(group_id, ignore_404=True)
list_organizations()
iter_organizations()
get_organization(id)
post_organization(organization)
put_organization(organization)
    Warning! with api v3 we need to use POST!
delete_organization(id, ignore_404=True)
list_licenses()

```

## High-level

```
class ckan_api_client.high_level.CkanHighlevelClient(base_url, api_key=None)
    High-level client, handling CRUD of objects.
```

This class only returns / handles CkanObjects, to make sure we are handling consistent data (they have validators in place)

```

list_datasets()
    Returns a list of dataset ids
iter_datasets()
    Generator, iterating over all the datasets in ckan
get_dataset(id, allow_deleted=False)
    Get a specific dataset, by id

```

---

**Note:** Since the Ckan API use both ids and names as keys, both `get_dataset()` and `get_dataset_by_name()` will perform the exact same request in the background.

The difference is only in the high-level handling: the function will check whether the expected id has the correct value, and raise an `HTTPError(404, ..)` otherwise..

---

### Parameters

- **id(str)** – the dataset id
- **allow\_deleted** – Whether to return even logically deleted objects. If set to `False` (the default) will raise a `HTTPError(404, ..)` if `state != 'active'`

**Return type** `CkanDataset`

**get\_dataset\_by\_name** (*name*, *allow\_deleted=False*)  
Get a specific dataset, by name

---

**Note:** See note on [get\\_dataset \(\)](#)

---

### Parameters

- **name** (*str*) – the dataset name
- **allow\_deleted** – Whether to return even logically deleted objects. If set to False (the default) will raise a `HTTPError(404, ...)` if state != 'active'

**Return type** [CkanDataset](#)

**save\_dataset** (*dataset*)

If the dataset already has an id, call [update\\_dataset \(\)](#), otherwise, call [create\\_dataset \(\)](#).

**Returns** as returned by the called function.

**Return type** [CkanDataset](#)

**create\_dataset** (*dataset*)

Create a dataset

**Return type** [CkanDataset](#)

**update\_dataset** (*dataset*)

Update a dataset

**Return type** [CkanDataset](#)

**delete\_dataset** (*id*)

Delete a dataset, by id

**wipe\_dataset** (*id*)

Actually delete a dataset, by renaming it first

**list\_organizations** ()

**list\_organization\_names** ()

**iter\_organizations** ()

**get\_organization** (*id*, *allow\_deleted=False*)

Get organization, by id.

---

**Note:** See note on [get\\_dataset \(\)](#)

---

### Parameters

- **id** (*str*) – the organization id
- **allow\_deleted** – Whether to return even logically deleted objects. If set to False (the default) will raise a `HTTPError(404, ...)` if state != 'active'

**Return type** [CkanOrganization](#)

**get\_organization\_by\_name** (*name*, *allow\_deleted=False*)

Get organization by name.

---

**Note:** See note on `get_dataset()`

---

#### Parameters

- **name** (`str`) – the organization name
- **allow\_deleted** – Whether to return even logically deleted objects. If set to `False` (the default) will raise a `HTTPError(404, ...)` if `state != 'active'`

**Return type** `CkanOrganization`

`save_organization(organization)`

`create_organization(organization)`

Create an organization

**Return type** `CkanOrganization`

`update_organization(organization)`

**Return type** `CkanOrganization`

`delete_organization(id)`

`list_groups()`

`list_group_names()`

`iter_groups()`

`get_group(id, allow_deleted=False)`

Get group, by id.

---

**Note:** See note on `get_dataset()`

---

#### Parameters

- **id** (`str`) – the group id
- **allow\_deleted** – Whether to return even logically deleted objects. If set to `False` (the default) will raise a `HTTPError(404, ...)` if `state != 'active'`

**Return type** `CkanGroup`

`get_group_by_name(name, allow_deleted=False)`

Get group by name.

---

**Note:** See note on `get_dataset()`

---

#### Parameters

- **name** (`str`) – the group name
- **allow\_deleted** – Whether to return even logically deleted objects. If set to `False` (the default) will raise a `HTTPError(404, ...)` if `state != 'active'`

**Return type** `CkanGroup`

```
save_group (group)
create_group (group)

    Return type CkanGroup

update_group (group)

    Return type CkanGroup

delete_group (id)
```

## Synchronization

```
class ckan_api_client.syncing.SynchronizationClient (base_url, api_key=None, **kw)
Synchronization client, providing functionality for importing collections of datasets into a Ckan instance.
```

Synchronization acts as follows:

- Ensure all the required organizations/groups are there; create a map between “source” ids and Ckan ids.  
    Optionally update existing organizations/groups with new details.
- Find all the Ckan datasets matching the `source_name`
- Determine which datasets...
  - ...need to be created
  - ...need to be updated
  - ...need to be deleted
- First, delete datasets to be deleted in order to free up names
- Then, create datasets that need to be created
- Lastly, update datasets using the configured merge strategy (see constructor arguments).

```
__init__ (base_url, api_key=None, **kw)
```

### Parameters

- `base_url` – Base URL of the Ckan instance, passed to high-level client
- `api_key` – API key to be used, passed to high-level client
- `organization_merge_strategy` – One of:
  - ‘create’ (default) if the organization doesn’t exist, create it. Otherwise, leave it alone.
  - ‘update’ if the organization doesn’t exist, create it. Otherwise, update with new values.
- `group_merge_strategy` – One of:
  - ‘create’ (default) if the group doesn’t exist, create it. Otherwise, leave it alone.
  - ‘update’ if the group doesn’t exist, create it. Otherwise, update with new values.
- `dataset_preserve_names` – if True (the default) will preserve old names of existing datasets
- `dataset_preserve_organization` – if True (the default) will preserve old organizations of existing datasets.
- `dataset_group_merge_strategy` –
  - ‘add’ add groups, keep old ones (default)

- ‘replace’ replace all existing groups
- ‘preserve’ leave groups alone

**sync** (*source\_name*, *data*)

Synchronize data from a source into Ckan.

- datasets are matched by \_harvest\_source
- groups and organizations are matched by name

**Parameters**

- **source\_name** – String identifying the source of the data. Used to build ids that will be used in further synchronizations.
- **data** – Data to be synchronized. Should be a dict (or dict-like) with top level keys corresponding to the object type, mapping to dictionaries of { 'id' : <object> }.



# CHAPTER 2

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## Modules

---

### `ckan_api_client.exceptions`

Exceptions used all over the place

**exception** `ckan_api_client.exceptions.HTTPError` (*status\_code*, *message*, *original=None*)

Bases: `exceptions.Exception`

Exception representing an HTTP response error.

**status\_code**

HTTP status code

**message**

Informative error message, if available

**exception** `ckan_api_client.exceptions.BadApiError`

Bases: `exceptions.Exception`

Exception used to mark bad behavior from the API

**exception** `ckan_api_client.exceptions.BadApiWarning`

Bases: `exceptions.UserWarning`

Warning to mark bad behavior from the API

**exception** `ckan_api_client.exceptions.OperationFailure`

Bases: `exceptions.Exception`

Something went wrong // failed expectations somewhere..

## ckan\_api\_client.objects

### Base objects

Classes to represent / validate Ckan objects.

```
class ckan_api_client.objects.base.BaseField(default=<object object>, is_key=<object object>, required=False)
```

Bases: object

Pseudo-descriptor, accepting field names along with instance, to allow better retrieving data for the instance itself.

**Warning:** Beware that fields shouldn't carry state of their own, a part from the one used for generic field configuration, as they are shared between instances.

**default = None**

**is\_key = False**

**get (instance, name)**

Get the value for the field from the main instace, by looking at the first found in:

- the updated value
- the initial value
- the default value

**get\_default ()**

**validate (instance, name, value)**

The validate method should be the (updated) value to be used as the field value, or raise an exception in case it is not acceptable at all.

**set\_initial (instance, name, value)**

Set the initial value for a field

**set (instance, name, value)**

Set the modified value for a field

**delete (instance, name)**

Delete the modified value for a field (logically restores the original one)

**serialize (instance, name)**

Returns the “serialized” (json-encodable) version of the object.

**is\_modified (instance, name)**

Check whether this field has been modified on the main instance.

**is\_equivalent (instance, name, other, ignore\_key=True)**

```
class ckan_api_client.objects.base.BaseObject (values=None)
```

Bases: object

Base for the other objects, dispatching get/set/deletes to BaseField instances, if available.

**classmethod from\_dict (data)**

**set\_initial (values)**

Set initial values for all fields

---

```

to_dict()
serialize()
    Create a serializable representation of the object.

iter_fields()
    Iterate over fields in this objects, yielding (name, field) pairs.

is_equivalent (other, ignore_key=True)
    Equivalency check between objects. Will make sure that values in all the non-key fields match.

Parameters
    • other – other object to compare
    • ignore_key – if set to True (the default), it will ignore “key” fields during comparison

is_modified()
    The object is modified if any of its fields reports itself as modified.

```

## Base fields

```

class ckan_api_client.objects.fields.StringField (default=<object
                                                    object>,          object>,
                                                    is_key=<object      object>,      re-
                                                    required=False)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.base.BaseField

default = None
validate (instance, name, value)

class ckan_api_client.objects.fields.ListField (default=<object object>,  is_key=<object
                                                    object>,          object>,
                                                    required=False)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.fields.MutableFieldMixin, ckan_api_client.
objects.base.BaseField

static default ()
validate (instance, name, value)

class ckan_api_client.objects.fields.DictField (default=<object object>,  is_key=<object
                                                    object>,          object>,
                                                    required=False)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.fields.MutableFieldMixin, ckan_api_client.
objects.base.BaseField

static default ()
validate (instance, name, value)

class ckan_api_client.objects.fields.GroupsField (default=<object
                                                    object>,          object>,
                                                    is_key=<object      object>,      re-
                                                    required=False)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.fields.SetField

validate (instance, name, value)

class ckan_api_client.objects.fields.ExtrasField (default=<object
                                                    object>,          object>,
                                                    is_key=<object      object>,      re-
                                                    required=False)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.fields.DictField

validate (instance, name, value)

is_equivalent (instance, name, other, ignore_key=True)

```

## Ckan dataset / resource

```
class ckan_api_client.objects_ckan_dataset.ResourcesField(default=<object object>,
                                                               is_key=<object object>,
                                                               required=False)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.fields.ListField

The ResourcesField should behave pretty much as a list field, but will keep track of changes, and make sure all elements are CkanResources.

    validate(instance, name, value)
    serialize(instance, name)
    is_equivalent(instance, name, other, ignore_key=True)

class ckan_api_client.objects_ckan_dataset.CkanDataset(values=None)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.base.BaseObject

    id = StringField(default=None, is_key=True, required=False)
    name = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
    title = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
    author = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    author_email = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    license_id = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    maintainer = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    maintainer_email = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    notes = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    owner_org = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    private = BoolField(default=False, is_key=False, required=False)
    state = StringField(default='active', is_key=False, required=False)
    type = StringField(default='dataset', is_key=False, required=False)
    url = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    extras = ExtrasField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
    groups = GroupsField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
    resources = ResourcesField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
    tags = SetField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)

class ckan_api_client.objects_ckan_dataset.CkanResource(values=None)
Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.base.BaseObject

    id = StringField(default=None, is_key=True, required=False)
    description = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    format = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    mimetype = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
    mimetype_inner = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
    name = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
```

```
resource_type = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
size = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
url = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
url_type = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
```

## Ckan group

```
class ckan_api_client.objects_ckan_group.CkanGroup (values=None)
    Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.base.BaseObject

    id = StringField(default=None, is_key=True, required=False)
    name = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
    title = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    approval_status = StringField(default='approved', is_key=False, required=False)
    description = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    image_url = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    is_organization = BoolField(default=False, is_key=False, required=False)
    state = StringField(default='active', is_key=False, required=False)
    type = StringField(default='group', is_key=False, required=False)
    extras = ExtrasField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
    groups = GroupsField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
    tags = ListField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
```

## Ckan organization

```
class ckan_api_client.objects_ckan_organization.CkanOrganization (values=None)
    Bases: ckan_api_client.objects.base.BaseObject

    id = StringField(default=None, is_key=True, required=False)
    name = StringField(default=None, is_key=False, required=False)
    title = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    approval_status = StringField(default='approved', is_key=False, required=False)
    description = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    image_url = StringField(default='', is_key=False, required=False)
    is_organization = BoolField(default=True, is_key=False, required=False)
    state = StringField(default='active', is_key=False, required=False)
    type = StringField(default='organization', is_key=False, required=False)
    extras = ExtrasField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
    groups = GroupsField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
    tags = ListField(default=<function <lambda>>, is_key=False, required=False)
```

## ckan\_api\_client.utils

**class ckan\_api\_client.utils.IDPair**

Bases: *ckan\_api\_client.utils.IDPair*

A pair (named tuple) mapping a “source” id with the one used internally in Ckan.

This is mostly used associated with *IDMap*.

Keys: source\_id, ckan\_id

**class ckan\_api\_client.utils.SuppressExceptionIf(cond)**

Bases: object

Context manager used to suppress exceptions if they match a given condition.

Usage example:

```
is_404 = lambda x: isinstance(x, HTTPError) and x.status_code == 404
with SuppressExceptionIf(is_404):
    client.request(...)
```

**class ckan\_api\_client.utils.IDMap**

Bases: object

Two-way hashmap to map source ids to ckan ids and the other way back.

**to\_ckan(source\_id)**

Convert a source id to ckan id

**to\_source(ckan\_id)**

Convert a ckan id to source id

**add(pair)**

Add a new id pair

Parameters **pair** (*IDPair*) – the id pair to be added

Raises **ValueError** – if one of the two ids is found in a mismatching pair

**remove(pair)**

Remove an id pair.

Parameters **pair** (*IDPair*) – the id pair to be removed

Raises **ValueError** – if one of the two ids is found in a mismatching pair

**class ckan\_api\_client.utils.FrozenDict(\*a, \*\*kw)**

Bases: *\_abcoll.MutableMapping*

Frozen dictionary. Acts as a read-only dictionary, preventing changes and returning frozen objects when asked for values.

**class ckan\_api\_client.utils.FrozenSequence(data)**

Bases: *\_abcoll.Sequence*

Base class for the FrozenList/FrozenTuple classes. Acts as a read-only sequence type, returning frozen versions of mutable objects.

**class ckan\_api\_client.utils.FrozenList(data)**

Bases: *ckan\_api\_client.utils.FrozenSequence*

Immutable list-like.

```
class ckan_api_client.utils.FrozenTuple(data)
    Bases: ckan_api_client.utils.FrozenSequence

    Immutable tuple-like.

ckan_api_client.utils.freeze(obj)
    Returns the “frozen” version of a mutable type.

    Raises TypeError – if a frozen version for that object doesn’t exist

class ckan_api_client.utils.WrappedList(*a, **kw)
    Bases: _abcoll.MutableSequence

    insert(pos, item)
```



# CHAPTER 3

---

## Testing

---

All the testing is done via `py.test`. See the pages below on how to run and write tests.

## Fixtures

Documentation of the available fixtures for tests.

### Fixture functions

### Utility objects

### Utility functions

Functions used by fixtures.

## Testing utilities

### Data generation

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate.generate_organization()
```

Generate a random organization object, with:

- `name`, `random`, example: "org-abc123"
- `title`, `random`, example: "Organization abc123"
- `description`, `random`
- `image`, `url` pointing to a random-generated pic

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate.generate_group()`

Generate a random group object, with:

- `name`, random, example: "grp-abc123"
- `title`, random, example: "Group abc123"
- `description`, random
- `image`, url pointing to a random-generated pic

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate.generate_dataset()`

Generate a dataset, populated with random data.

### Fields:

- `name` – random string, in the form `dataset-{random}`
- `title` – random string, in the form `Dataset {random}`
- `author` – random-generated name
- `author_email` – random-generated email address
- `license_id` – random license id. One of `cc-by`, `cc-zero`, `cc-by-sa` or `notspecified`.
- `maintainer` – random-generated name
- `maintainer_email` – random-generated email address
- `notes` – random string, containing some markdown
- `owner_org` – set to `None`
- `private` – Fixed to `False`
- `tags` – random list of tags (strings)
- `type` – fixed string: "`dataset`"
- `url` – random url of dataset on an “external source”
- `extras` – dictionary containing random key / value pairs
- `groups` – empty list
- `resources` – list of random resources
- `relationships` – empty list

---

**Note:** The `owner_org` and `groups` fields will be blank, as they must match with existing groups / organizations and we don't have access to database from here (nor is it in the scope of this function!)

---

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate.generate_resource()`

Generate a random resource, to be put in a dataset.

### Fields:

- `url` – resource URL on an “external source”
- `resource_type` – one of `api` or `file`
- `name` – random-generated name
- `format` – a random format (eg: `csv`, `json`)
- `description` – random generated string

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate_tags(amount)
Generate amount random tags. Each tag is in the form tag-<random-int>.
```

**Returns** a list of tag names

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate_extras(amount)
Generate a dict with amount random key/value pairs.
```

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate_data(dataset_count=50,
                                         orgs_count=10,
                                         groups_count=15)
```

Generate a bunch of random data. Will also associate datasets with random organizations / groups.

**Returns** a dict with the dataset, organization and group keys; each of them a dict of {key: object}.

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.generate_id(length=10)
```

## HTTP Utilities

Utilities for handling / checking HTTP responses

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.http.check_response_ok(response, status_code=200)
```

**Warning:** deprecated function. Use [check\\_api\\_v3\\_response\(\)](#).

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.http.check_response_error(response, status_code)
```

**Warning:** deprecated function. Use [check\\_api\\_v3\\_error\(\)](#).

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.http.check_api_v3_response(response, status_code=200)
Make sure that response is a valid successful response from API v3.
```

- check http status code to be in the 200-299 range
- check http status code to match status\_code
- check content-type to be application/json
- check charset to be utf-8
- check content body to be valid json
- make sure response object contains the success, result and help keys.
- check that success is True
- check that error key is not in the response

### Parameters

- **response** – a requests response
- **status\_code** – http status code to be checked (default: 200)

```
ckan_api_client.tests.utils.http.check_api_v3_error(response, status_code)
Make sure that response is a valid error response from API v3.
```

- check http status code to match `status_code`

### Parameters

- `response` – a `requests` response
- `status_code` – http status code to be checked

## String-related

String generation functions.

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.strings.generate_password(length=20)`

Generate random password of the given length.

Beware that the string will be generate as random data from urandom, and returned as headecimal string of twice the length.

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.strings.generate_random_alphanum(length=10)`

Generate a random string, made of ascii letters + digits

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.strings.gen_random_id(length=10)`

Generate a random id, made of lowercase ascii letters + digits

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.strings.gen_dataset_name()`

Generate a random dataset name

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.strings.gen_picture(s, size=200)`

Generate URL to picture from some text hash

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.strings.gen_gravatar(s, size=200)`

Return URL for gravatar of md5 of string s

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.strings.gen_robohash(s, size=200)`

Return URL for robohash pic for sha1 hash of string s

## Validation

Utility functions to validate expectations

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.validation.check_dataset(dataset, expected)`

Make sure dataset matches the expected one

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.validation.check_group(group, expected)`

Make sure group matches the expected one

`ckan_api_client.tests.utils.validation.check_organization(organization, expected)`

Make sure organization matches the expected one

# CHAPTER 4

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